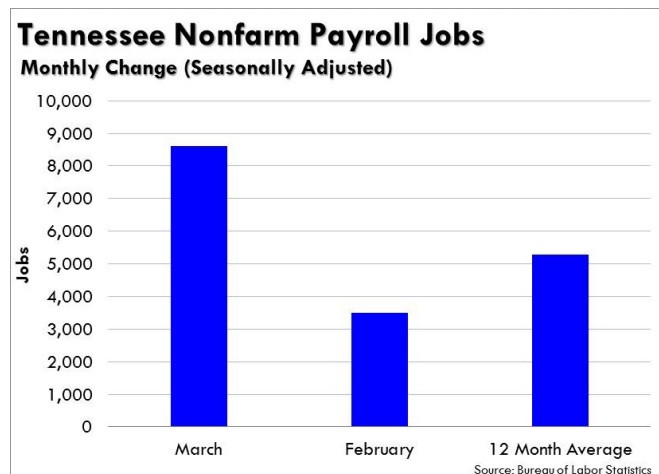
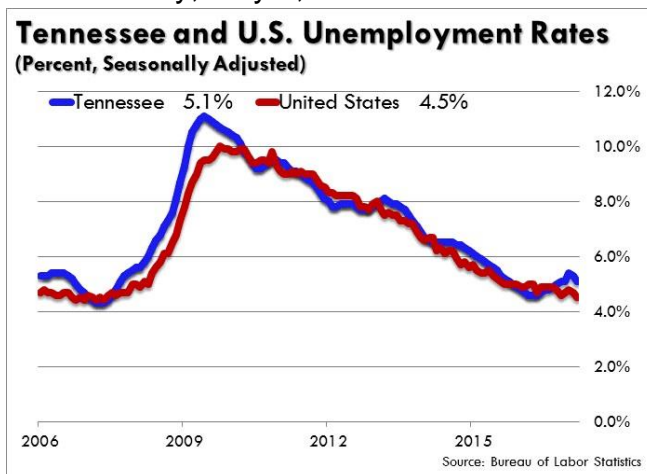


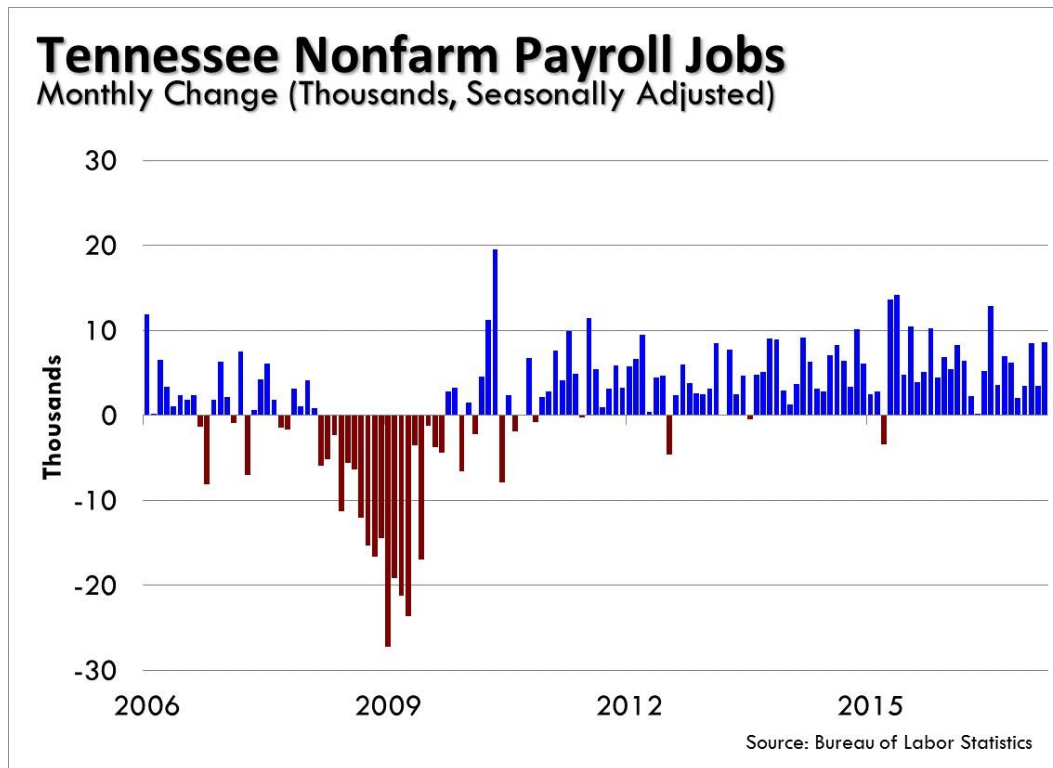


April 23, 2017

## Summary

- **Tennessee added 8,600 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 5.1 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Tennessee added 63,500 jobs** and the unemployment rate rose by 0.5 percentage point from 4.6 percent.
- **In March, Tennessee's private sector added 4,600 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 59,600 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Tennesseans fell by 4,854 in March**, and over the past year 65,762 Tennesseans found jobs.
- Tennessee's **labor force participation rate increased to 60.9 percent** from 60.8 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





## **Tennessee Payroll Employment**

Tennessee added 8,600 jobs, or 0.29 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Tennessee added 3,500 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Tennessee increased by 63,500, or 2.15 percent. Tennessee nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 24 months.

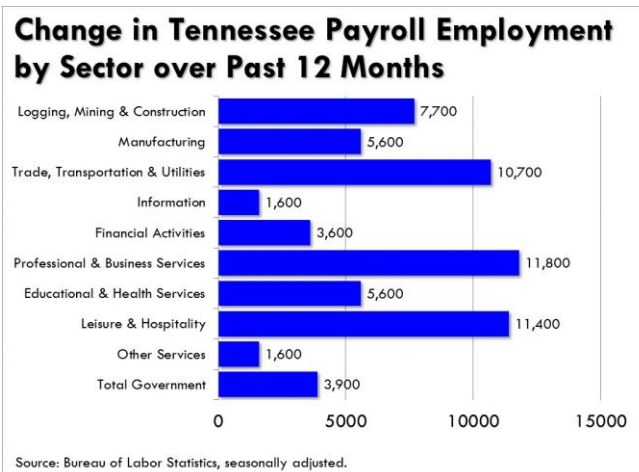
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Tennessee ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Tennessee's private-sector added 4,600 jobs, or 0.18 percent. The private sector in Tennessee added 6,100 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Tennessee increased by 59,600, or 2.36 percent. Tennessee private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Tennessee ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Professional & Business Services (+5,700) and Total Government (+4,000). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Manufacturing (-1,300) and Logging, Mining & Construction (1,100).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+11,800) and Leisure & Hospitality (+11,400). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Information (+1,600) and Other Services (+1,600).



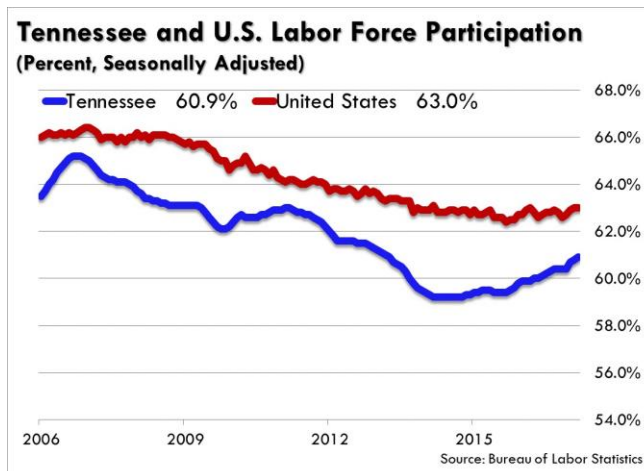
## Tennessee Labor Force Statistics

### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Tennessee rose to 60.9 percent in March from 60.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 40 have a higher labor force participation rate than Tennessee. The labor force participation rate in Tennessee is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Tennessee was 64.4 percent in April 2007. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Tennessee occurred in January 1995 when the labor force participation rate hit 67.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 59.2 percent in October 2014. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in January 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 58.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*



The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Tennessee civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 57.8 percent in March from 57.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 41 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Tennessee. The employment-to-population ratio in Tennessee is 0.6 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Tennessee was 61.7 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Tennessee occurred in January 1995 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 64.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent in August 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1983 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.8 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

